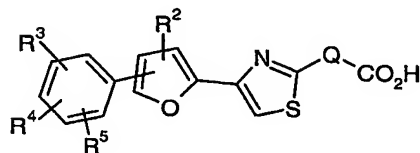


## CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or prodrug thereof:



(I)

wherein

Q is (CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>m</sub>[CH(R<sup>1</sup>)]<sub>n</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>p</sub> where n is 0 or 1, and m and p are independently 0, 1 or 2;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>3-6</sub> alkynyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN and methylenedioxy;

R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are independently hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, CF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, COR<sup>7</sup>, NHCOR<sup>8</sup>, NHCONHR<sup>8</sup>, NHSO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>8</sup>, CONHR<sup>9</sup>, CN, SO<sub>2</sub>R<sup>8</sup> or NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>;

R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl, C<sub>3-6</sub> alkynyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, aryl or heteroaryl wherein aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy and methylenedioxy;

R<sup>7</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, OR<sup>6</sup> or phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy and NHCOR<sup>8</sup>;

R<sup>8</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy any of which may be optionally substituted by aryl or heteroaryl, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, methylenedioxy and NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>; C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl wherein the ring may contain up to two heteroatoms selected from NR<sup>12</sup>, S and O; or aryl or heteroaryl wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, methylenedioxy and NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>;

R<sup>9</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkylphenyl or phenyl, wherein alkyl may be interrupted by oxygen and wherein phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy and methylenedioxy;

R<sup>10</sup> and R<sup>11</sup> are independently hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, or together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a 5- to 6-membered heterocyclic group which optionally contains an additional heteroatom selected from NR<sup>12</sup>, O and S; and

R<sup>12</sup> is hydrogen or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl;

provided that the compound is not:

i) 2-[4-[5-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Q is CH<sub>2</sub>.

3. A compound according to claim 1 or 2 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen or halogen.
4. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> are  
 5 independently, hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxyl or C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy, CF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>,  
 NHCOR<sup>8</sup> or CONHR<sup>9</sup>, wherein at least one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is other than hydrogen.
5. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein one of R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> is NHCOR<sup>8</sup>  
 10 and the other is hydrogen or halogen and R<sup>5</sup> is hydrogen.
6. A compound according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R<sup>8</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl or  
 C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy any of which may be optionally substituted by phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally  
 substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl,  
 15 methylenedioxy and NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>; C<sub>3-6</sub> cycloalkyl wherein the ring may contain up to two heteroatoms  
 selected from NR<sup>12</sup>, S and O; phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from  
 halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN and methylenedioxy; or a 5- to 10-membered mono- or bicyclic  
 heteroaryl group containing up to three heteroatoms selected from O, N and S which heteroaryl group may  
 be substituted by C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkoxy or halogen.
7. A compound according to claim 6 wherein R<sup>8</sup> is C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl or C<sub>2-6</sub> alkenyl either of which may be  
 optionally substituted by phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents  
 selected from halogen, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, methylenedioxy and NR<sup>10</sup>R<sup>11</sup>; phenyl optionally  
 substituted by one or more substituents selected from halogen, C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCF<sub>3</sub>, OR<sup>6</sup>, CN and  
 20 methylenedioxy; or a 5- to 10-membered mono- or bicyclic heteroaryl group containing up to three  
 heteroatoms selected from O, N and S which heteroaryl group may be substituted by C<sub>1-6</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1-6</sub>  
 25 alkoxy or halogen.
8. A compound of formula (I) as described in any one of Examples 1 to 24 or a pharmaceutically  
 acceptable salt or prodrug thereof.
9. A compound selected from:  
 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(2,4-dichlorophenylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-  
 yl]acetic acid,  
 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[3-(4-bromo)phenylacryloylamino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic  
 35 acid,  
 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[3-(2,4-dichloro)phenylacryloylamino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-  
 yl]acetic acid,  
 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[3-(3,5-ditrifluoromethyl)phenylacryloylamino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-  
 thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,  
 40 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-(3-phenylacryloylamino)phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(4-trifluoromethoxyphenylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(benzothiophene-2-carbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

5 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(6-chloro-4H-chromene-3-carbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(3,4-dichlorophenylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

10 2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(3-methoxyphenylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid, and

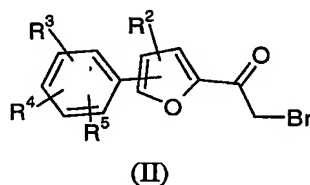
2-[4-[5-[2-Chloro-4-[(4-trifluoromethoxyphenylcarbonyl)amino]phenyl]furan-2-yl]-1,3-thiazol-2-yl]acetic acid,

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrugs thereof.

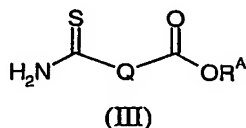
15 10. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9, without proviso i), for use in medicine.

11. A process for the preparation of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9 which comprises:

reacting a compound of formula (II):



wherein  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are as defined in claim 1, with a compound of formula (III):

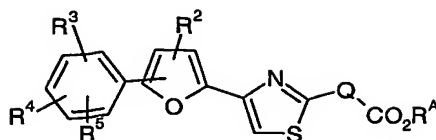


wherein Q is as defined in claim 1 and  $R^A$  is H,  $C_{1-6}$  alkyl or a suitable protecting group; followed, where required, by deprotection of the group  $OR^A$  to give the corresponding carboxylic acid.

12. A process for the preparation of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9 wherein one or more of  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is  $NHCOR^8$  which comprises:

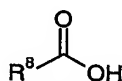
reacting a compound of formula (VIII):

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(VIII)

wherein one or more of  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  is  $NH_2$ ,  $R^2$  and  $Q$  are as defined in claim 1 and  $R^A$  is as defined in claim 11, with a compound of formula (IX):



(IX)

wherein  $R^8$  is as defined in claim 1, in an amide bond formation reaction.

13. A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9, without proviso i), together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

14. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9, without proviso i), in the manufacture of a medicament for the inhibition of heparanase.

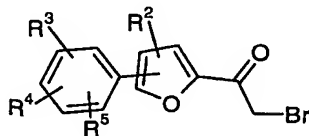
15. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9, without proviso i), in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of cancer.

16. The use as claimed in claim 15 wherein the cancer is:

- (a) a metastatic tumour cell type, such as, melanoma, lymphoma, leukaemia, fibrosarcoma, rhabdomyosarcoma, and mastocytoma; or
- (b) a carcinoma, such as, colorectal cancer, prostate cancer, small cell lung cancer and non-small cell lung cancer, breast cancer, pancreatic cancer, bladder cancer, renal cancer, gastric cancer and ovarian cancer.

17. The use of a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 9, without proviso i), in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a disease selected from angiogenesis or an angiogenesis dependent disease, an inflammatory disease, an autoimmune disease and a cardiovascular disease.

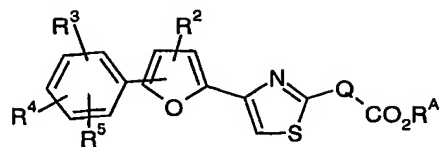
18. A compound of formula (II):



(II)

wherein,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^5$  are as defined in claim 1.

19. A compound of formula (X):



(X)

5 wherein Q and R<sup>2</sup> are as defined in claim 1, R<sup>A</sup> is as defined in claim 11, at least one of R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>5</sup> is NO<sub>2</sub> and the remainder are as defined in claim 1.